

Public Service Announcement



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Turtle River State Park to Begin Spraying for Mosquitoes

Turtle River State Park will be spraying to control the adult mosquito population in selected areas of the park throughout the remainder of the mosquito season, depending on weather conditions and daily mosquito counts.

Ground spraying, using Aqualuer 20-20, a permethrin product, will be applied with a truck-mounted Ultra-Low Volume (ULV) sprayer. Applications will occur on Thursdays or Fridays. Areas to be sprayed are limited to high public use areas of the park, including the perimeters of the campgrounds, picnicking areas, and Woodland Cabins and Lodge complex.

The park staff currently monitors the mosquito population as part of its regular mosquito control program. Data on mosquito counts within the park is provided to the North Dakota Health Department's West Nile Virus Surveillance Program and can be found on-line at www.ndwnv.com. Assistance in developing the park's comprehensive mosquito control program was provided by the Grand Forks Public Health Department.

Information will be available to park visitors upon their arrival. As with all pesticides, park visitors should take precautions when spraying is underway: in particular, park visitors, especially children and pets, should stay indoors during the spraying period; toys and portable items, including food, should be brought indoors; and those with chemical sensitivity should take additional precautions. More information is available on the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department website, www.parkrec.nd.gov/parks/trsp.htm, or by calling Turtle River State Park at 701-594-4445.

At the end of the season, the effectiveness of the spray program will be evaluated, both in terms of mosquito counts and visitor comments.